

ABSTRACT

Readily-fibrillable fibers of PVA polymer, having good chemical resistance, hydrophilicity, weather resistance and water resistance have a flattened cross-sectional profile and have a mean thickness D (μm) that satisfies the following formula (1):

$$0.4 \leq D \leq 5 \quad (1)$$

wherein $D = S/L$; S indicates the cross-section area (μm^2) of the fibers; and L indicates the length (μm) of the major side of the cross section of the fibers. The fibers can be used for making nonwoven fabrics.